FEDERAL SPENDING PRIORITIES

Committee on the Budget: Committee concluded hearings to examine spending priorities of certain federal laws and programs in order to maximize the government's performance and accountability, after receiving testimony from David M. Walker, Comptroller General of the United States, General Accounting Office.

U.S. COMPUTER NETWORK PROTECTION

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Technology, Terrorism, and Government Information held hearings to examine the vulnerability of U.S. systems to cyber attack, focusing on the Administration's National Plan for Information Systems Protection and its implications regarding privacy, receiving testimony from John S. Tritak, Director, Critical Infrastructure Assurance Office, Department of Commerce; and Marc Rotenberg, Electronic Privacy Information Center, and Frank J. Cilluffo, Center for Strategic and International Studies, both of Washington, D.C.

Hearings recessed subject to call.

MEDICAL ERRORS

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee resumed hearings to examine the incidence of medical errors, focusing on understanding adverse drug events, receiving testimony from Janet Woodcock, Director, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services; Janet Heinrich, Associate Director, Health Financing and Public Health Issues, Health, Education, and Human Services Division, General Accounting Office; Michael R. Cohen, Institute for Safe Medication Practices, Huntingdon Valley, Pennsylvania; Richard Platt, Harvard University Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts, on behalf of the Harvard Pilgrim Healthcare; and Eleanor M. Vogt, National Patient Safety Foundation, and Raymond L. Woosley, Georgetown University Medical Center Department of Pharmacology, both of Washington, D.C.

Hearings recessed subject to call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 6 public bills, H.R. 3561–3566; 5 resolutions, H.J. Res. 86; H. Con. Res. 245–246, and H. Res. 410–411, were introduced.

Pages H164-65

Reports Filed:

H. Res. 412, providing for consideration of H.R. 2005, to establish a statute of repose for durable goods used in a trade or business (Rept. 106–491).

Page H164

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designated Representative Cooksey to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H91

Recess: The House recessed at 9:55 a.m. and reconvened at 11:00 a.m. Page H95

Private Calendar: On the call of the Private Calendar the House:

Passed Over Without Prejudice: S. 452, for the relief of Belinda McGregor. Page H95

Passed: H.R. 1023, for the relief of Richard W. Schaffert. Page H95

Review of the National Reconnaissance Office: Read a letter from the Minority Leader wherein he announced his appointment of Representative Dicks to the National Commission for the Review of the National Reconnaissance Office.

Page H98

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Contributions of Catholic Schools: H. Res. 409, honoring the contributions of Catholic schools; and Pages H98–103

Child Abuse Prevention and Enforcement Act: Agreed to the Senate amendment to H.R. 764, to reduce the incidence of child abuse and neglect—clearing the measure for the President (agreed to by a yea and nay vote of 410 yeas to 2 nays, Roll No. 4).

Pages H121-27

Subsequently, agreed to H. Con. Res. 245, to correct technical errors in the enrollment of the bill.

Page H128

Taiwan Security Enhancement Act: The House passed H.R. 1838, to assist in the enhancement of the security of Taiwan by a yea and nay vote of 341 yeas to 70 nays, Roll No. 5. Pages H110-21, H127-28

Earlier, the House agreed to H. Res. 408, the rule that provided for consideration of the bill. Pursuant to the rule, the amendment recommended by the Committee on International Relations, now printed in the bill, was considered as adopted. Pages H103-10

Resignation from the Democratic Caucus: Read a letter from Representative Frost wherein he announced that Representative Goode resigned from the Democratic Caucus.

Page H128

Resignation from Committee: Read a letter from Representative Blunt wherein he announced his resignation from the Committee on Appropriations.

Page H128

Committee Election Vacated: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he announced that Representative Goode's election to the Committee on Agriculture has been vacated effective today. Page H128

Committee Election Vacated: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he announced that Representative Goode's election to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services has been vacated effective today.

Page H128

Committee Election: Agreed to H. Res. 410, electing Representative Goode to the Committee on Appropriations.

Page H128

Committee Election: Agreed to H. Res. 411, electing Representative Lee to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

Pages H128–29

Motion to Instruct Conferees: Agreed to the Berry motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 2990, Quality Care for the Uninsured Act, (1) to take all necessary steps to begin meetings of the conference committee in order to report back expeditiously to the House; and (2) to insist on the provisions of the bipartisan Consensus Managed Care Improvement Act of 1999 (Division B of H.R. 2990 as passed by the House), and within the scope of conference to insist that such provisions be paid for by a yea and nay vote of 207 yeas to 175 nays with 28 voting "present," Roll No. 6.

Presidential Messages: Read the following messages from the President:

United States Air Force Exemption: Message wherein he transmitted his Presidential Determination that exempts an Air Force operating location in Nevada from certain laws referred to the Committee on Commerce.

Page H137

United States-Latvia Fisheries Agreement: Message wherein he transmitted the agreement between the United States and Latvia concerning fisheries off the coast of the United States referred to the Committee on Resources and ordered printed (H. Doc. 106–189); and

Page H137

Arctic Research Plan: Message wherein he transmitted the sixth biennial revision to the United States Arctic Research Plan referred to the Committee on Science.

Page H137

Amendments: Amendments ordered printed pursuant to the rule appear on page H166.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea and nay votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H126–27, H127–28, and H136–37. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Committee Meetings

LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative held a hearing on the Joint Economic Committee, the GPO, the Joint Committee on Taxation, the GAO, and the Capitol Police Board. Testimony was heard from Representatives Saxton and Archer; Michael F. DiMario, Public Printer, GPO; David M. Walker, Comptroller General, GAO; Wilson Livingood, Sergeant at Arms, House of Representatives; James W. Ziglar, Sergeant at Arms, Senate; Gary L. Abrecht, Chief, U.S. Capitol Police; and Alan M. Hantman, Architect of the Capitol.

SMALL BUSINESS LIABILITY REFORM ACT

Committee on the Judiciary: Ordered reported, as amended, H.R. 2366, Small Business Liability Reform Act of 1999.

WORKPLACE GOODS JOB GROWTH AND COMPETITIVENESS ACT

Committee on Rules: The Committee granted, by voice vote, a modified open rule providing 1 hour of general debate on H.R. 2005, Workplace Goods Job Growth and Competitiveness Act of 1999. The rule makes in order the Committee on the Judiciary amendment in the nature of a substitute now printed in the bill as an original bill for the purpose of amendment, which shall be open for amendment at any point. The rule makes in order only those amendments printed in the Congressional Record and pro forma amendments for the purpose of debate. The rule provides that each amendment printed in the Congressional Record may be offered only by the Member who caused it to printed or his designee, and that each amendment shall be considered as read. The rule allows the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole to postpone votes during consideration of the bill, and to reduce voting time to five minutes on a postponed question if the vote follows a fifteen minute vote. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Representative Chabot.